# **SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS**









#### INTRODUCTION

Carib Indians occupied the islands of the West Indies for hundreds of years before the British and French began settlement in 1623. At one time united with Anguilla, the islands achieved independence in 1983 as Saint Kitts and Nevis but remain a UK Commonwealth realm.

# **GOVERNMENT**

#### **Chief of State**

Queen ELIZABETH II represented by Governor General Samuel W.T. **SEATON** 

#### **Head of Government**

Prime Minister Timothy HARRIS

#### **Government Type**

federal parliamentary democracy (Parliament) under a constitutional monarchy: a Commonwealth realm

#### Capital

Basseterre

# Legislature

unicameral National Assembly (14 or 15 seats, depending on inclusion of attorney general)

#### **GEOGRAPHY**

#### Area

Total: 261 sq km Land: 261 sq km Water: 0 sq km

#### Climate

tropical, tempered by constant sea breezes; little seasonal temperature variation; rainy

season (May to November)

# **Natural Resources**

arable land

#### **ECONOMY**

#### **Economic Overview**

high-income, tourism-based Caribbean island economy; better debt balancing: CARICOM member: growing offshore financial hub; environmentally fragile; unique citizenship-driven growth model; increased telecommunications focus

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1.24 billion (2020 est.) GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$23,300 (2020 est.) **Industries -** tourism, cotton, salt, copra, clothing, footwear, beverages

Agricultural products - coconuts, tropical fruit, roots/tubers nes. vegetables, sweet potatoes, pulses nes, watermelons, carrots/turnips, eggs, tomatoes

Exports \$57.4 million (2017 est.)

low-voltage protection equipment, broadcasting equipment, measuring instruments, electric motor parts, electrical transformers (2019)

partners: US 69%, Germany 8%, Italy 5% (2019)

**Imports** \$335.3 million (2017 est.)

refined petroleum, jewelry, ships, cars, poultry meats, cement (2019)

partners: US 59%, Peru 6%, Germany 5% (2019)

# **PEOPLE & SOCIETY**

# **Population**

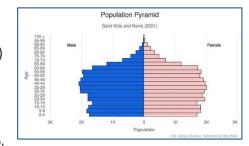
54,150 (July 2021 est.)

# **Population Growth**

0.64% (2021 est.)

### **Ethnicity**

African origin 92.5%, mixed 3%, White 2.1%,



East Indian 1.5%, other 0.6%, unspecified 0.3% (2001 est.)

# Language

English (official)

#### Religion

Protestant 74.4%, Roman Catholic 6.7%, Rastafarian 1.7%, Jehovah's Witness 1.3%, other 7.6%, none 5.2%, unspecified 3.2% (2001 est.)